THE

PETITION

AND

DECLARATION

OF

Sir *PHILOM ONEAL* KNIGHT, Generall of *Ireland*, to the High Court of Parliament now assembled in *England*, and the Lords and Nobility Commanders of the Army *of the Catholicks of Ireland.*

Averred by *Tho. Etherington* Clerk.

The Names of the Rebels.

Oneal,
Ormund,
Antrim,
} *Mountgarret,*
Neterfield,
Dillon, &c.

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THE PETITION OF THE

Rebels of *Ireland*, to the High Court of Parliament, now assembled in *England*.

Declareth,

TO this Honorable and High Court that there hath been severall Petitions formerly delivered to the Lords of the Councel in this Kingdome; wherein our grievances and oppressions have bin at large set forth, our great desires expressed by the same for the Relief of our sufferings, and our humble demands for tolleration in our Religion and Liberty in the exercise thereof, and the confirmation of our ancient Lawes and Priviledges, by former Acts of Parliaments Enacted and granted to us, in the Reigns of former Kings and queens of *England*.

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But the ſame Petitions have bin rejected, and no favour ſhewed to us, but all ſecurity that poſſible could, in execution of the Lawes of latter times made againſt thoſe of the *Romane Catholique Religion*; which enforced our taking up Armes for the defence of the ſame. There hath likewiſe bin humble *Remonſtrances* and *Declarations*, aſwell preſented to your Lordſhips, as publiſhed publiquely in this Kingdome; but the ſame hath bin alſo diſregarded, and rejected, not ſo much as obtainiug any anſwer therto, as may any way give us hopes of the future injoyment of our Religion, Laws, and Liberties; by which, being brought to deſpair of any relief of our Grievances, and many Oppreſſions wherwith we have hitherto bin overburthened; Yet notwithſtanding our Requeſts could not be harkned unto, but in both Kingdoms, and by both Counſels repulſed: that we might cleer our ſelves of obſtinate refuſall, to uſe and lay all lawfull and dutifull means, that may be to the King and His Parliaments, for the obtaining our juſt deſires. Even to the

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uttermoſt, we are agreed in the behalf of our ſelues, and of the *Roman Catholique Religion*, to preſent this humble *Declaration, and Petition*, to your Lordſhips, and the Houſe of Commons: In which we declare.

1. That whereas they have ſince the time of their taking up Arms, bin by divers falſe Papers and Pamphlets, declared to have uſed inhumane and ſavage Cruelties, and moſt bloudy Maſſacres, againſt the perſons of ſuch whom they have overcome in skirmiſhes, that have oppoſed and indeavoured to deſtroy not only our religion, but lives and fortunes, which by the Laws of God, of Reaſon, and Nature, we are bound to maintain and uphold, by which we have bin made infamous to all men, even in forreign nations, for which we are much grieved? Wee therfore to clear our ſelves of this ſcandall and defamation, ſay, and proteſt, that ſince our taking up arms, we have not uſed any cruelty to the adverſe Party; otherwiſe then hath hapned to fall by the ſword in the Battell, of which we have

uſed, or if we have taken priſoners, we have preſerved and kept them with reſpect as in war uſed; till we have ſeen the uſage of our men taken by the other party, and even as they have bin dealt withall, ſo have we; which we conceive to be but juſt and congruent to the Law of Arms: but for diſmembring, diſjoyning, ripping up women with child, and ſlaying of Infants, we are innocent, concerning the ſame as to our ſelves, and if any of the ruder ſort of ſouldiers have bin guilty of the ſame, when we were acquainted therwith, we ſeverely puniſhed them; as for example, one *Drahone* for raviſhing a woman with child, and after ripping her up, was contented to be hanged in chains for his vile fact; which was accordingly performed, and others have bin puniſhed in the like kind.

2. That by Order from the Parliament all *Declarations, Papers, Writings, or Pamphlets*, wherby we are called Rebels, and Traitors to our King and Country, may be reſtrained and called in; and wherby we are ſcandalized and diſgraced, and maliciouſly and falſly abuſed. That

3. That our desires are not to withdraw our selves from the subjection of our lawful King, or to any Lawes by his Majesty and Parliament, made for good Government, that destroyes not our Religion, Lawes, and Liberties; for the exercising of the same, *according to the Ordinances of the Roman Catholique Church*; but only to vindicate the same, to the losse of our lives and fortunes.

4. That we are ready and willing to submit our selves to His Majesty, upon any lawfull, honourable, and reasonable conditions. But no conditions being propounded by his Parliament, that may bee any wayes safe for us to yeeld unto; And perceiving the distractions and divisions between the King and His Parliament; whereby they cannot together not so well as desired, we are unresolved what to do in any way of submission, till there be a Concurrence and Agreement between King and People: in the mean time, we must be enforced to do what we can to preserve our selves and Estates.

5. And lastly, that the Parliament would

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be pleaſed to admit and appoint a meeting between the Lords and Nobility of our Army, and the Lords Commanders on the Engliſh Army; wherat Conditions of Truce, and Ceſſation of Arms between both may be offered and concluded for a certain time, which ſhall be thought convenient to ſetle the preſent and particular diviſions between the King and His Parliament: and in the mean time, to conſider of Articles and Propoſitions wherby a finall and perpetuall Pacification may be made and confirmed by the States of both Kingdomes.

Theſe our deſires, and humble Requeſts, we pray may be taken into the conſideration of the High Court of *Parliament* with all expedition, and our anſwer of the ſame returned, by which we may know what to truſt to,

And we ſhall pray, &c

Oneal, Ormund, Antrim. Mountgarret, Neterfield, Delon, &c.

FINIS.

BIBL. CANT. ACAD.